



STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION
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April 30, 2015

Honorable Phil Ting
California State Assembly Member
State Capitol, Room 3123
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: **BOE Support for AB 681, as Amended April 22, 2015**

Dear Assembly Member Ting:

The Board of Equalization (BOE) supports your AB 681. As you know, your bill modifies the county assessment practices survey cycle, requires all survey reports to be complete within one year, and allows a former assessor an opportunity to provide survey input.

Currently, the law requires the BOE to conduct surveys of all 58 county assessor's offices every five years. This schedule requires the BOE to use the two full years the law allows to publish the final reports. While the BOE has always met the two-year deadline, the agency supports reducing the number of surveys to achieve the goal of publishing surveys within one year.

AB 681 ensures that the BOE will continue the same level of audit oversight over the top 10 counties, which represent 75% of the assessment roll. The proposed schedule for the remaining counties will add an element of random selection and allow the BOE to maintain the audit's scope for those counties selected. The BOE is dedicated to improving the survey program and supports your efforts to provide counties with more timely reports and incorporate a former assessor's input, as necessary.

If you have any questions or need additional information regarding this bill, please contact Michele Pielsticker, Chief, Legislation and Research Division, at (916) 322-2376.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Cynthia Bridges".

Cynthia Bridges
Executive Director

CB:ah